1.1.1992 से प्रबन्धकों तथा स्टाफ के वेतन तथा भत्ते, महंगाई भत्ते में संशोधन के लिए प्रावधान किया गया।

एस टी सी के ऊपरी खर्चों का पिछले तीन वर्षों के लिए वर्षवार ब्यौरा नीचे दिया जा रहा है:—

(करोड़ रु०)

वर्ष	स्थापना	प्रशासन	व्यापार	योग	कुल बिक्रियों के % के रूप में ऊपरी खर्चे
1992-93	20.38	13.06	2.07	35.51	3.5%
1993-94	21.36	15.84	1.72	38.92	3.5%
1994-95	23.71	11.61	1.64	39.96	2.1%

(ग) से (ङ) हालांकि ऊपरी खर्चे पर नियंत्रण हेतु कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किए गए हैं लेकिन एस टी सी ने कुछ निश्चित किफायती उपाय आरंभ किए हैं जिनमें समयोपरि भत्ते के आधार पर स्टाफ को लगाने पर पाबन्दी, यात्रा व्यय पर पाबन्दी, आदि शामिल हैं।

Production and Consumption of Rubber

1414. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the production and consumption of rubber in the country during the last three years;

(b) the quantity of rubber imported during this period, year-wise;

(c) what are the main obstacles in achieving self-sufficiency in rubber; and

(d) what steps have been taken to improve productivity of rubber?

THE MINSTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The production, consumption and import of natural rubber in the country for the last three years have been as follows:

	Production	Consumption (Tonnes)	Import
1992-93	393,490	414,105	17,884
1993-94	435,160	450,480	19,940
1994-95	471,815	485,850	7,305

(c) Currently 96% of the demand is met by local production. Since consumption has been increasing at a very rapid rate, production, although rising rapidly, has failed to keep pace with the growing demand.

(d) The productivity of rubber in India is higher than that of all other leading rubber producing countries. Besides, the Rubber Board is implementing various schemes to increase production and productivity of rubber. These include:

(i) Production and distribution of high yielding planting materials to rubber growers;

(ii) Rendering advisory, extension and training services;

(iii) Encouraging group processing and marketing among small holders;

(iv) Undertaking research on cultivation, production and processing of rubber;

(v) Making available financial and technical assistance for new planting and replanting with improved varieties; and

(vi) A World Bank assisted Rubber Project which is under implementation from 1993-94 to enhance production and quality of rubber.

बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों द्वारा मिथेन का निष्कर्षण किया जाना

1415. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विदेशी निवेश संवर्धन बोर्ड ने बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों को देश में विभिन्न कोयला क्षेत्रों से मिथेन निकालने की अनुमति दी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या इस संबंध में कुछ स्वदेशी कंपनियों से प्राप्त हुये प्रस्तावों को भी मंजूरी प्रदान की गई है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाईटलर): (क) से (ङ) सरकार ने कोयला बैड (धरातल) मिथेन परियोजनाओं के अन्वेषण तथा विकास के लिए भारत की निम्नलिखित कंपनियों को अनुमोदन दे दिया है:—

क्रम०सं०	कंपनी का नाम
1.	मेसर्स मोदी-मेकेन्जीन मिथेन लिमिटेड (एक संयुक्त उद्यम कंपनी)।
2.	मेसर्स एस्को इंडिया पेट्रोलियम कंपनी, अमरीका।
3.	मेसर्स रिलायन्स इंडस्ट्रीज लि०।

Welfare Measures for Tendu Leaf Labourers

1416. SHRI MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to initiate some welfare measures for Tendu Leaf labourers;

(b) whether any such scheme has been started in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, how many workers are benefiting from these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) According to available information, an insurance coverage has been introduced as a social welfare measure.

(c) Does not arise.

FCV Tobacco Production in Andhra Pradesh

1417. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expected FCV tobacco production in Andhra Pradesh in 1995-96;

(b) whether the recent cyclone has had any impact on tobacco production in the State; and

(c) if so, the extent of the impact of the cyclone on the tobacco economy in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The authorised crop size of FCV tobacco fixed for Andhra Pradesh by Tobacco Board for 1995-96 season is 75.47 Kgs. It is too early to estimate the expected FCV tobacco production in Andhra Pradesh as planting is on progress.

(b) and (c) The impact of cyclone has been noticed on the FCV tobacco nurseries, transplanted crop and barns in East Godavari, West Godavari, Khammam, Warangal, Karimnagar, Krishna and Guntur districts of Andhra Pradesh. On account of cyclone, the total production of FCV tobacco in Andhra Pradesh is likely to decline by about 1%.

Inadequate Supply of Sugar to PDS consumers

1418. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that beneficiaries of PDS in the country are still facing difficulty in getting their quota of sugar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that PDS shopowners often complain about getting less than the required supply of sugar from the FCI godowns;

(c) if so, the reasons for this short supply; and

(d) steps being taken to ensure timely supply of sugar to the beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE